Docket No. 0086USAAPN01 PATENT #2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Callahan et al.
Application No.: TBD Group No.: 1745
Filed: Examiner: TBD
For: POLYMER MATRIX MEMBRANE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
ATTENTION: Special Program Examiner, Group 1745

PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL UNDER THE ENERGY PROGRAM

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.102(c), and guidelines presented in M.P.E.P. § 708.02, VI, Applicant hereby petitions to make this application special as being for an invention that materially contributes to

(a) [ ] the discovery or development of energy resources.
(b) [x] the more efficient utilization and conservation of energy.

1. Accompanying material

Accompanying this petition is a statement by

[ ] applicant
[x] applicant's attorney

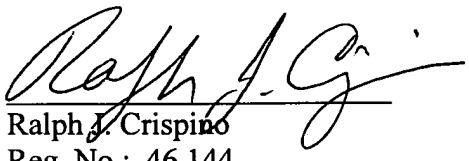
explaining how the invention materially contributes to category (a) or (b) set forth above.

2. Fee

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.102(c) , no fee is required for this petition.

Dated: August 30, 2001

Respectfully submitted,



Ralph J. Crispino
Reg. No.: 46,144
Tel. No.: (914) 798-7270
Fax No.: (914) 345-9558
85 Executive Blvd.
Elmsford, NY 10523
Customer No.: 26665

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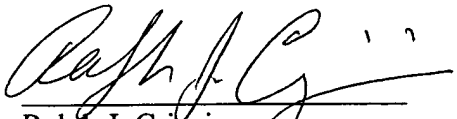
STATEMENT BY APPLICANTS' ATTORNEY ACCOMPANYING PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL UNDER THE ENERGY PROGRAM

The above-referenced invention materially contributes to the more efficient utilization and conservation of energy resources. The claims are directed to a material that is capable of containing a quantity of liquid active species, such as anion conducting or cation conducting solutions, for use in electrochemical cells. Particularly, the present invention allows for use of the material as a membrane, without the limitations related to conductivity of membranes heretofore disclosed; since the conductivity is based on the liquid solution maintained within the polymer matrix material. As disclosed in the patent application, a conductivity of about 0.45 siemens per centimeter have been attained for a hydroxide conducting membrane. Accordingly, such high conductivities provide a significant contribution relating to efficient utility of energy resources.

Dated: August 30, 2001

Respectfully submitted,



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